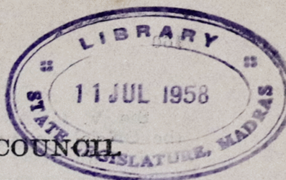


THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Friday, the 14th February 1958.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at ten of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Report of the Official Language Commission

* 14 *Q*.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether copies of the Report of the Official Language Commission have been received by this Government from the Central Government; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The recommendations of the Official Language Commission have been reviewed by this Government in the light of the views already expressed by them in their memorandum submitted to the Commission, and discussions on the subject with the Leaders of parties in the Legislature. A memorandum has now been submitted to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, with the request that the views of this Government may be brought to the notice of the Parliamentary Committee considering the Report of the Official Language Commission and also be placed before the Government of India. Copies of the Memorandum are available in the Madras Legislature Library.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the House be given an opportunity to discuss the report and express its views to the Parliamentary Committee that is going into the question?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : If the House so desires, we shall make arrangements for the discussion of this subject.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : I would like to know, Sir, whether the Parliamentary Committee will receive any representations from the Government or Ministers here because my impression. . .

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : We have made our views quite clear, and they have been placed before them and from the discussions I had with the persons concerned, I do not think that any fresh representation is necessary.

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SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY: May I ask, Sir, whether the Official Language Commission wants the proceedings of the Legislature to be conducted in Hindi or whatever other language they may recommend? It may be Russian that they recommend. But do they desire us to conduct the proceedings in Hindi here?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: It is purely within the province of this House to decide which language should be used here.

Travelling allowance to teachers posted for election duty

* 15 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the rules issued by the Government for the purpose of grant of travelling allowance to teachers posted for election duty during the last General Elections?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: A copy of the instructions [a] regulating the payment of travelling allowances and advances to polling personnel employed for election duty during the General Elections, 1957, is placed on the table of the House.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Am I right in taking that the modification suggested in sub-division (*a*) of Part B of the rules placed before the House applies only to elementary school teachers under local boards and not to high school teachers under local boards?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The teachers in elementary schools and in schools maintained by local bodies will be granted the daily allowance.

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY: Are teachers best fitted for supervising the election work and by asking them to perform it, should they be victimised?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: It is not a question of making them victims. It is connected with the duty to be performed by somebody in an impartial manner and we reposed confidence in the teachers. I think it is a tribute paid to the quality of work done by them in connection with the elections.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Are the Government aware of the fact that by this modification which was introduced after payment of election travelling allowance for the General Elections in 1952 and before payment of travelling allowance for 1957 elections many teachers in local board high schools had got only actual fare *plus* two rupees daily allowance, whereas many other members in the same school like clerks and others got actually something more—mileage in the place of actual fare?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I shall examine the matter.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: If so, will the Government kindly issue revised instructions?

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[a] Printed as Appendix on pages 177–180 *infra*.